

"THE ROSARY"

PROPERTY OF WILLARD B. PRICE

## THE ROSARY.

### PROPS

Newspaper  
Blue print  
Button hook  
Cane (with hook)  
Wine glass  
D canter  
Reveolver  
Light  
Three cups  
Three saucers  
Sugar bowl  
Tea Pot  
Tap bell  
Bell (phone)  
~~Rosary~~  
Cigar case  
Cigars  
~~Phone~~ Photo  
Hat and coat  
Letter  
Carpet sweeper  
Piano  
Lunch tray

" THE ROSARY "

CHARACTERS

REVEREND FATHER BRIAN KELLY ..... CHARACTER LEAD  
BRUCE WILTON ..... LEAD  
KENWARD WRIGHT ..... BENTLEEL HEAVY  
LEE MARTIN ..... LIGHT JUVENILE COMEDY

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LESURA WATKINS ..... JUVENILE COMEDY  
ALICE MARSH ( ..... DUAL ROLE. LEAD.  
VERA WILTON (

TIME.... Present

Place Westchester New York

Act One the lawn of Bruce Wiltons country home.

Act Two The study two hours later

Act Three The study next morning

Act four Outside chapel of the ~~messays~~- rosary one hour before dawn.

ACT ONE

(they see is the grape arbor on the lawn of Bruce Wiltons country place just outside New York city, a portion of the house is seen L its entrance is through a spacious veranda reached by board steps, roof of veranda is supported by two large pillars, beginning at upper end of house, the lattice work of grape arbor extends across the back and down the proscenium arch R it is broken by arches R C and R 3E a large tree and is covered as the arches R and C with grape vines. Around the base of the tree C is a large seat, a white settee is placed up and down stage R C medium sized rattan table a white cane chair each side of table flower beds around veranda L 2 white cane chairs on veranda view through arches shows rolling hills of Westchester, it is 6 P M on a beautiful summer day as the curtain rises---the ray of sun falls upon the grape arbor from R.)

Lesura Watkins

( a pretty girl of 19 rather inclined to plumpness (enters at rise) all her movements are slow and methodical, under her arms a number of cushions in her hands several newspapers and magazines, she X's to bench R C and begins to arrange cushions on bench.

Lee Martin

('nick' name Skeeter) (rolls a turkish rug on from door of veranda which reaches to from of steps) as the carpet unrolls Skeeter enters from door of house L he is twenty five years old who small in size, sharp features and tow colored hair ) He speaks to Lesura who b this time is standing on bench & trying to reach newspaper which has previously been placed just above her reach in the lattice work.



Skeeter

Ah there angel (Lesura takes no notice of him 9 intent on the paper Skeeter cming down steps) angel, I said, and that goes, just in time to keep her from dong a fly away to heaven (pause she does not answer) Now dare you speak to the angel, skeeters, does the angel wish to converse with you? Nay, nay and also NIT (draws nearer) Miss Angel Rover Rover Rover. (whistles L)

Lesura

What are you calling the dog for?

Skeeter

She has spoken at last.

Lesura

When you know Mr. Wilt n hasn't any dog.

Skeet

Well, I've tried everything I know to make you talk since you came to the ranch three days ago, and I said call the dog, and she'll speak from the face out, and you did, wise boy, Skeeter eh?

Les

(looks at him clamly without smiling) Some times I think your crazy.

Skeet

Ah a you have tought of me thn?

Les

Yes you crazy?

Skeet

Nop just a little bit daffy

Les

I don't know what you mean

Skeet

Why, bugs on the top floor, rooms to rent in the brain flatk eacthh me? Myfriends always laugh at that joke.

Les

I don't see anything funny about that.

Skeet

Ah! And they call me the original comedy cut up around here.

Les

What do you cut up?

Skeet

Murder! Say are you joshing me?

Les

I used to know a man named Josh, up home in Vermont.

Skeet

You come from Vermont, I got you.

Les

Um hum Bellas Falls Vermont.

Skeet

Why so far away from home little one? Did the Bellas bust or the falls flew? Joke, catch me?

Les

Falls couldn't flew

Skeet

Oh, say what are you doing up there?

Les

I'm trying to remember why I climbed up here.

Skeet

Take your time, don't over burden your mind, don't force it.

Les

Ah!

Skeet

She's got an idea.

Les

That paper.

Skeet

That's easy (catches the paper and goes L C) Extra Extra! All about the missing heiress from Belas Falls Vermont 'spreads arms wide over L C as tho trying to keep corwd back) Keep back keep back, there give the lady a chance.

Les

What are you doing?

Skeet

Keeping the corwd back, so you can get out of your flying machine Keep back there, take that trolley car out of the way

Les

(gets down from bench slowly) I don't see any crowd.

Skeet

Ah, say are you always serious? Can't you laugh? I got a bet of five dollars with John the coachman another four dollars with Molly the cook, that I can make you laugh Bee, I've got hard work ahead of me.

Les

So have I. (begins to fix cushions and papers) Mrs. Wilton always wants everything ready out here, when Mr Wilton comes home from the city.

Skeet

I wonder if Ben will come with him today?

Les

(pause) Ben who?

Skeet

Ben-anna (pause for her laugh she doesn't) Oh do I want that money? Ben-anna, see?

Les

I don't know Mr. Bennanna.

Skeet

Stung. (falls in chair) Say, could you laugh if you tried?

Les

Yes, but my paw said when I took my carpet bag and left Bellas Falls he said Lesura Watkin, don't be boisterous.

Skeet

Ah! You win, but I'll make you laugh hear me, I'll make you laugh or die trying (goes up C)

Vera

(enter from house L woman 26 charmingly gowned) Well, all ready for Mr Wilton, Lesura?

Lesura

I guess so, Mrs. Wilton.

Vera

We mustn't guess lets be sure (^ to table R) His favorite magazine and newspapers cigarettes here-(-sees Skeeters who comes L C) Is the tea ready, Lea?

Skeet

Water boiling.

Vera

Good changed your dress didn't you, Lesura?

Les

And bootblackened my finger nails.

Skeet

Wu'dn't that Bellas Falls you?

Vera

(scolds) Lee! Manacured you mean, my two friends and helper Lesura and Lee--

Skeet

Gee, Mrs. Wilton it does sound funny to hear you call me Lee.

Vera

Its a better name than Skeeter.

Skeet  
Sure. Only Skeeter makes me think of the time on the East Side, when I was just a preliminary fighter.

Vera  
Don't, Lee.

Skeet  
Yes, and something worse. I wasn't above porch climbing or second story work, and the day I met my boss, Mr Wilton--say, he's real he is, I was ragged and hungry, and it looked like up the river for mine. when he stepped out of his automobile, and he says, "kid" yes just just that easy "Kid, you look as though you wanted a job----

Vera  
You didn't want one didn't you?

Skeet  
Listen/ WANT don't say it I YEARNED that's the word "Show me a job " I says, and I'll give it a hug and a kiss of warm welcome " Well here I am.

Vera  
Don't you think that's pretty fine, Lesura?

Les  
Yes'm but I don't know what he's talking about.

Skeet  
Take me back to Bellas Falls Ben Wwright enters back of C arch handsome man of 36 quite repressed manner)

Vera  
Getting tired of waiting for Bruce, Lenward?

Len  
Not when his charming wife keeps me company

Vera  
Too warm for compliments, Kenward (turning to servants) Come now Lee, see that Mr Wrights things are laid out. Your trunk is unlocked, Ken?

Ken  
Yes.

Vera  
And both of you be ready, when we hear the train, whistle that brings Wilton.

Les  
Yes'm (Vera turn to Ken who is R)

Skeet  
(t Les) Just a moment dearie, I saw a pail of water arrested yesterday

Les  
What for?

Skeet  
For being full. (pause) FULL get it, FULL.

Les  
You can't arrest a pail of water.

Skeet  
Ah! She's an Egyptian mummy (exit in house with Les)

Ken  
Do you treat all the servants like---

Vera  
Like friends? Yes, that's what I want them to be.

Ken  
(on bench R) What a strange woman you are, Vera Wilton.

Vera  
(sits L of table R C facing him) And what a strange man, you are Kenward Wwright.

Ken  
There's nothing peculiar about me is there?



Vera

You're the oddest man I know (he makes movement). Wait. When your uncle died, and left his entire fortune to Bruce, you didn't seem to mind.

Ken

Bruce had already won you, money didn't matter.

Vera

(laughs) You will keep up that joke, that you cared for me.

Ken

(laughs) Yes, funny isn't it? (rise and turns away to R) (face showing it is really no joke to him)

Vera

and then you are continually dropping upon us from-- heaven knows where.

Ken

Well, this time, my drop is from the west---Iowa.

Vera

Where? What town?

Ken

Milbourne. Yes, I met your sister Alice, and what a start it gave me for a moment I thought she was you.

Vera

Why we are twins. You knew that, Kenward?

Ken

Of course but meeting her so suddenly was something of a shock.

Vera

How is Alice? Do you know, I've haven't heard from her in two months?

Ken

Quite well, I judge.

Vera

I've a curious feeling of depression about her.

Ken

Nonsense.

Vera

Of course, but I can't help it, Oh Ken there's something I want you to do for me.

Ken

Give it a name, Vera.

Vera

Tomorrow is the anniversary of my marriage, and I've a present for Bruce---one that I can't give him, without your help.

Ken

It must be an amazing gift.

Vera

It is---something for his study---and I want you to meet me there early tomorrow morning.

Ken

How early?

Vera

Six o'clock.

Ken

I'll have to stay up all night to be in time.

Vera

Please be serious, Bruce won't go to the office and it's a task to have this gift ready, and keep him out of the way.

Ken

What a wifely devotion.

Vera

Bruce is worth it.

Ken

sure of that?

(whistle off stage)

Vera

Theres the train Lee Lursura (Skeet enter from house on run has tray with spirit lamp, tea kettle etc)

Skeet

On the job, I started when the whislte blew.

Vera

(back of table R C) Oh dear, where's Lesura?

S eet

(fixing newspapers) Bellas Falls is asleep, I guess.

Vera

Oh (rings bell, single stroke on table)

Skeet

Time. (drops paper, comes C hands up in fighting attitude) (pivit swing right hand toward Vera)

Vera

Lee!

Sket

Oh splash, that bell made me think I was bask in the ring again.

Vera

Wheres Lesura and the tea?

Skeet

I'll go and see (starts L Lesura enter hurriedly with tray of cups and saucers, small bottle of Irish whiseky etc narrowly escapes collison with Skeeter Vera utter cry as the two meet)

Vera

Oh.

S keet

(sieze Lesura by shoulder) Don't worry. (take tray) Going down. you know, you ought to get the hook. Here youare, Miss Vera, it just cam in on the Bellas Falls slow frieght get that?

Vera

(laughing) I do.

Skeet

(laughs)

Les

Mr. Martin.

Skeet

Yes?

Les

What kind of a hook shall I get?

Vera

What is the girl talking about?

Skeet

You can search me. (Les starts towards house)

Vera

Lesura, where are you going?

Les

Mr Martin told me, I ought to get the hook

Skeet

Ah (drops in bench R C Les exits in house L)

Vera

Do you know what she is talking about, Lee?

Skeet

Yes, but she doesn't (Bruce Wilton enters C from L fine featured age 32)

Bruce

Hello, home again. (Vera goes into his arms, Skeet quietly gets in arbor)

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce



Bruce  
 Glad to see you, dear.  
 Vera

Agnes since you went away this morning

Bruce  
 I meant to catch the two o'clock train, but I missed it. A big deal on tell you all about it later, hello where did Lee go?

Skeet  
 I'm hiding in the forest.

Bruce  
 Hello kid, glad to see you (shake)

Skeet  
 Right back at you, boss, only stranger.

Les  
 (enter from house with button hook of extra long handle) Here's the hook.

Bruce  
 (turns) Hello, Lesura, is that for me.

Les  
 I don't know, Mr Martin told me I ought to get the hook and I got it.

Bruce  
 Oh, Lord.

Les  
 Aint it the right kind of a hook?

Bruce  
 I don't know is it, Lee? (X to table R C)

Skeet  
 (X to Les very importantly) I will see. (try to put hook about her neck) No it aint large enough. I'm very sorry

Les  
 You use that to button boots.

Skeet  
 I know, but then you get the hook, it will be in the neck (Bruce roars)

Les  
 Is that funny?

Skeet  
 That's the jokeist joke I ever joked.

Les  
 I'll go get the right hook (exit in house L)

Bruce  
 (laughing) Skeeter, your wit doesn't seem to make an impression on Lesura.

Skeet  
 Listen, Mr Wilton, she's the toughest proposition. But I'll make her laugh if it kills me (exit in house L.)

Vera  
 Bruce, dear, aren't you afraid we'll sp il those two?

Bruce  
 Not a bit, heavens, but its good to laugh, there's tragedy enough in the city.

Vera  
 A hard day in wall street?

Bruce  
 Yes. Why Vera, I'm in a deal, that if anyone knew the facts---if the other crowd had a hint of what I proposed doing tomorrow they'd smash me like that

Vera  
 Going to tell me?

Bruce  
 Hell, are you anxious to know?

Vera

I'm interested in anything that concerns you, dear.

Bruce

You shall hear about it tonight, do you know what day tomorrow will be?

Vera

Yes, the eleventh day of July

Bruce

And our wedding anniversary hush, close your eyes tight now (takes jewel case from pocket opens it) Now, look.

Vera

(opens eyes and looks pleased) Bruce!

Bruce

To my wife, on our second anniversary

Vera

A rosary (takes from case) A rosary of pearls.

Bruce

I had them selected one by one, and the cross was made from the first ore taken from my new western mine.

Vera

How dear of you, and my present for you--well I can't give it to you now, now.

Bruce

No?

Vera

No, because it isn't finished, that is it is finished but it isn't in yet.

Bruce

In ? In where?

Vera

In the house.

Bruce

I'll go and see it. (X to L C)

Vera

(catch him) No No

Bruce

I don't understand

Vera

I don't mean you shall. Its something very beautiful only you mustn't enter your study until tomorrow at ten o'clock.

Bruce

All right, its a promise anything new, dear?

Vera

Kenward is here.

Bruce

Fine . I hope we can keep him for a few weeks. you know, Vera, Kenward acted like a big man when Uncle Arthur died, and left me all his money (sit on bench)

Vera

Didn't he? (back of table)

Bruce

And you know, I always thought Ken was in love with you.

Vera

Nonsense, don't be jealous. You know that is your one fault, and I worry sometimes, worry for fear I may do something---something---

Bruce

Why, Vera.

Vera

Why Kenward jokes about it.

Bruce

Yes I know, but there s always seems to be a serious note back of his jokes on that subject.

Vera

That's your imagination.

Bruce

Prhaps anybody called?

Vera

Nwwt that remeinds me. there's an awfully pretty girl waiting for father Kelly you remember the priest we've heard so much about here? Did you send him a note, Bruce?

Bruce

Y s, don't you know who he is?

Vera

Why no.

Bruce

Remember me telling you of the priest who tutored me for my yale entrance examination?

--Vera

Why-nee-

--Bruce-

~~Remember me telling you of the priest who tutored me for my yale entrance examination?~~

Vera

Yes

Bruce

Father Kelly is the man. I'd been so taken up with business, that I only found it out a week ago, I'm wondering if he will remember me?

Vera

I shall be glad to meet him

Bruce

Who's the girl, you said was waiting?

Vera

Kathleen O'Connor, father Kelly's niece.

Bruce

Lets go and see her, we'll have tea, when Father Kelly comes (X L.)

Br-ee

Lets-go-and see h

Bear

Yes, and keep them both to dinner. I must see to that now. (they exit)

Father Kelly

(enter from L he is fine type of man ruddy good natured face and eyes that see humor in everything looks about him) A fine climb to the top of the hill, and a fine place when you get here, only there's nobody about. Let me see that note again (take note from pocket and read) I wonder what I'd better do.

Bruce

(on veranda) If I were in your place, Father Kelly---

Father

What's that?

Bruce

I'd rest myself after a long walk

Father

That's good advice. (sit L of table R C) And I make it a rule in life to follow good advice

Bruce

Its a warm day

Father

No dear sir, its worse; its scalding.



Bruce

But there's a good breeze up here.

Father

I feel the gentle zephyrs on me cheek will ye tell me what I do now?

Bruce

What do you know now?

Father

Of course, you're laying out the rules for my behavior, sit down says ye and here I am planted like a marble statue on you front lawn A cool breeze, ye said, and I have me bald pate turned to it so I axe ye what next.

Bruce

Look at me. (X to talk back of Kelly)

Father

I'm looking

Bruce

Tell me my name

Father

Wilton ah a Mr Wilton am I not prompt in me answer?

Bruce

Yes, but where have you seen me before?

Father

Well, I---I--

Bruce

Quick now.

Father

Easy me man. Don't push an old man off his feet. I'm thinking. Was it in church.

Bruce

No, I haven't been inside a church in twenty years.

Father

(seriously) I'm sorry for that.

Bruce

Yes, you always were.

Father

I always--man dear, your voice has a familiar ring, and ye smile like that of someone who---

Bruce

Who walked with you, and talked with you, father Kelly, many years ago, when you used to shake your fist at me and say, "Bruce dear, will ye never get the music of the Virgil in yer head?" Anna Vurnamque Cane---

Father

Treize qui primus oris Murder alive. Its Bruce (rises) Me dear b y, Bruce what I yanked through his latin by the hair of the head.

Bruce Wilton (shake- shakes) Come here, well, well, well---

(puts his hand on his shoulder, then change tone abruptly) For two pins I'd rather this head of yers---

Bruce

(break away rush behind bench R) No you don't, father Kelly. I've felt that right hand of yours before, in our bouts with the gloves.

Father

Is it a fighter you're makin' of me?

Bruce

Well, your religion was of the molly-coddle kind, thats what I liked about it

Father

But you never loved it enough to make it your own.

Bruce

I don't believe in any religion father.

Father

(s seriously) I know that, Bruce, an' its a great grief to me but I live in hopes lad, his ways are wonderful and he says he may yet show you his mighty hands rule the universe (pause) (A lay hand on Bruce's arm) There there, (both sit) Sure, me ove for ye makes me forget I'm not in the pulpit preachin. Tell me about yerself I was sint to a aprrish when you entered college. Ye've done well?

Bruce

So well, Father Kelly, that sometimes I'm afraid.

Father

Of what, Bruce?

Bruce

I don't know. I've added to my fortune my uncle left me, until I'm worth a million

Father

I hear ye, but its hard to follow ye. I kin think very well in tens and hundres, a million takes me breath away

Bruce

And after tomorow if all goes well, I'll have two millions. I've a house in the city, and this country place that I bought only a month ago---and a wife--

Father

Aha---I've been waiting for the rastle of a petticoat.

Bruce

The dearest woman in all the world.

Father

I'll bet ye

Bruce

Strange too she's relious Believes in everything I reject.

Father

Well well, there's hope for the head of the house then.

Bruce

Our meetin was the stranges thing. Out in the country, a western town, I happened to be wa king b the church there. Someone was playing THE ROSARY.

"The hours I spent with thee Dear Heart

Are as a string of pearls to me

I count them over, everyone a part,

My rosary, my rosary

Each hour a pearl, each pearl a prayer

To still a heart in absence wrung

I tell each bead, unto the end--

Father

And there a cross was hung. (during recital lights grow dim the warm tints of sunset flood the scene, in the stillness the sound of beads are heard)

Vera

(comes on veranda) Bruce dear, what keeps you?

Bruce

Here she is, Father Kelly, it was her voice, that drew me out that day (X L back of table)

Father

Sure and that's no wonder.

Vera

(going down to Father taking his hand) Then you don't blame Bruce, Father Kelly?

Father

Faith Mom, if he hadn't been drawn well he had been more human.

Blarney

Vera

Father

Not a bit of it, cold 1928 truth

Vera

(as they laugh move to tea table) Tea after that

Father

Is that a hint mom that my compliment to you is hot air?

Bruce

Not a bit of it (Bruce and father sit)

Vera

(pouring tea) Never had such an idea like it strong, father Kelly?

Father

Suit yerself, sure and I'll engage to drink it as ye pour it out, Mrs. Wilton

Vera

No n o

Father

I beg your pardon, mom

Vera

Not, Mrs Wilton

Father

No?

Vera

Vera, to my dear friends.

Father

Does that mean that I am elected to that honorable number?

Vera

Unanimously (hands him cup)

Father

Me thinks mom, sure and its a knighthood you've conferred on me.

Vera

Oh you irishman, Bruce has a drop of the blood in him too.

Father

Of course. Isn't he me friend?

Ver Bruce

(quickly) Father Kelly (hands father cup of tea)

Father

Man, dear, are you wishful to saald me?

Bruce

No, but I---

Father

What happened, anyhow?

Bruce

Well, quite by accident I put some whiskey in your tea.

Father

(pause stirs tea) Did ye so?

- -- Bruce Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

I'm very sorry.

Father

Was it good whiskey?

Bruce

Real Irish, fifteen years old.

Father

Well, well leave it stay, if its that old, twould be a crime to distubb it but---(hands cup to Vera)

Vera

You don't approve?



Father

Ah, how that depends. Whiskey is a fine servant, but a bad master--- tis for the end of the day not the beginnin, If it cried out inside of ye don't touch it, but if it laughs ye may use it in reason

Vera

then---

Father

Yes, but someone who hasn't the strength to use it in moderation, might see me and I'm better to do without it.

Bruce

You've changed a bit, Father Kelly

Father

Yes, lad, some, I'm balder, and me hair is whiter.

Bruce

How comes that you are out here? Why a man like you should be at the head of the finest church in New York City.

Father

Sure, and I chose this place. I knew that there were men, women, and little children, starving for the bread of god's word.

Vera

And you preach in a tent?

Father

Tis all the same, Mom, whether the master calls indoors or out. Didn't the fathers who came to America when all were wilderness, do without churches? Ah sure and I'm no better than they?

Bruce

But in winter.

Father

Well, I will not say its thoroughly comfortable in January, one of me congregation a rebel and an anarchist, but a goodfellow came up to me one day when the snow blew in and driftedn about me feet, and say he father Kelly preach us of the place where the wicked will go, he says, and faith ye'll melt the snow about ye" (they all laugh)

Bruce

Wouldn't you like a church?

Father

Well, I'm not avaricious, Bruce, but I could use one, Bruce.

Vera

Theres a new church being built at the foot of this hill--isn't there?

Bruce

Yes, and when its finished, the key will be turned over to Father Kelly

Father

(sits cup of tea down) To me? Ah go on, and don't be crackin your jokes at an old man.

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

Its the truth. I've kept it a secret, even from you, dear.

Father

Ye mean it?

Bruce

I certainly do. Special permission has been received from the archbishop of New York to build it. The money has been laid aside, and it will be completed within a year. no matter what happens it will be called the "Chapel of the Rosary"

Father

Well, well am I walking in my sleep. I wonder, Miss Vera would yem have the kindness to pinch me?

Vera

(pinch him slightly) There.

Father

I'm awake, but where did it come from?--Who---

Bruce

I gave it to you, dear old friend.

Father

You? (pause) I'm tryin' to spake, but the world won't come.

Bruce

and on the day you open its doors, there will be a new organ with the most beautiful tone---a gift from my wife, Vera.

Vera

That's the organ you asked me to select, and wouldn't tell me what it was for. Father Kelly, the day your church opens I will play that organ for your service.

Bruce

and though, I don't believe in religion at all, father, I'll come to church that day

Father

Save me but you certainly overcome me with your goodness. Its a tidal wave of love, thats sweeping over me.

Bruce

Can't you swim, father?

Father

Get out of that, you blatherere (shakes) Bruce, me dear boy its from a full heart, I say thank ye, and thank ye, Miss Vera and ---and don't those words sound simply foolish? (goes up R C w th Bruce)

Les

(enter from house) Mrs. Wilton

Vera

Yes. (X to veranda, Bruce and Kelly engage private conversation) What is it Lesura?

Les

Your sister has come she told me to tell you and Mr. Wilton quietly.

Vera

Alice here? (turns pause) Bruce excuse me father Kelly (father X's R)

Bruce

Yes, dear.

Vera

My sister Alice is here.

Bruce

That's strange did you know she was coming, Vera?

Vera

No I must go in to her.

Les

If you pleas Mrs Wilton, your sister was pretty tired, and she's lying down up stairs. Asked not to be disturbed, just dropped down on the bed and went fast to sleep, and she said, for you not to say she had come to anyone except Mr. Wilton.

Vera

Oh very well, Lesura. (Les exits) Isn't that strange?

Bruce

Well, don't worry about it.

Vera

I feel as though something were hanging over me.

Father  
(enaring last words) Well, mom if it drops sure and Ill be the first  
one to catch it.

Vera  
Thank you.

Kath  
(enter from house) Uncle Brian!

Father  
And is that yerself, Kathleen?

Kath  
Yes, I come with a letter for you (hands letter to Kelly)

Vera  
And we were too happy in meeting father Kelly that we forgot all  
about you this is my husband Miss O'Connor.

Father  
(as he opens letter) Faith I'm goad ye come dear 'turns to others)  
Sure Kate is not been feeling quite herself of late.

Vera  
That's too bad.

Bruce  
No message in that letter that will keep you from dining with us?

Father  
-his? Sure its only notification that in ten months, the lot where me  
tant stand s must be vacated.

Bruce  
We'll have the chapel of the Rosary done by that time.

Father  
Bruce, lad, ye've made me very shpppy on this beautiful evening.

Vera  
Isn't it heavenly out here?

Father  
well, if heaven is more beaitufil than this, faith, I don't think  
I could stand it. what do you call the place?

Bruce  
Eden

Vera  
After the garden of Eden Bruce named it.

Father  
ah but there was a serpent there tiwtn a fork tongue, who did more  
mishcier than all the world has been able to repair since.

Bruce  
No serpent here, Father Kelly  
father

Then its not Eden

Vera  
If there is a serpent, find it. Do as your saint Patrick did, drive  
him out.

Father  
I'll do the driving fast enough but I must find the ser pant first.

Vera  
Come into dinner, Bruce hurry and dress.

Father  
Truth for you mom, this serpent may be in the house. (X to house)

Ken  
(enter from house evening clothes) Dinner is ready, they say  
Hello Bruce.

Bruce  
How are you Ken? Glad to see you (exit in house with Kathleen)

Vera  
Ohocome I beg your pardon father Kelly, this is our friend Mr.  
Kenward Wright.



Father

Mr. Wright.

Vera

Coming. (starts with Ken Ken assist Vera by hand up steps)

Father

(near foot of steps sees look Ken gives Vera speaks slowly) No---  
serpent here---Bruce said, I wonder, I ---wonder (moonlight on him  
hanging lamp o veranda shines down on Ken as Ken releases Vera's hand  
gives her exteely affectionate look. Vera does not see, but father  
Kelly does) (all this bus before father reads last speech)

CURTAIN

ACT TWO

BRUCE WILTONS STUDY

(room is wainscoted and dark oak arch R leading out to lawn opening C another 2 leading to dining room and library thru hall all arches may be closed as they have heavy french glass windows blue velvet curtains on three arches L C is door reached by two steps a flight of stairs leading to 2nd story Behind the way C there is a platform 7 by 1 one half high, on this is set a bed room furnished with bed and dressing table and two chairs, from this room a door right leads to bath, lamps on each side of dressing table placed against the back flat L of door C the back wall of the main scene, is scrimmed also the door L c leading to staircase. When lights are lowered in front to see in room up C and on staircase are turned on one can see into bedroom also anyone who descends stairs that portion of scene above the arch L 2nd door ent) and- s scrimmed, and back of it is a painted library set, with an easy chair and table on which is a drop light, there are book cases along the wall L settee well up ^ telephone on table C as curtain rises \*C

Father

(off L after song) That's a fine song, Bruce me boy

Bruce

I'm glad you liked it, father Kelly (all laugh off L) (door opens from stairway L C Alice is seen there and this Alice is played by same party that plays Vera) (she stands with hands on knob of door)

Les

(enter L 2 E) Why Miss Alice ---

Alice

Your the girl who met me when I came this afternoon, aren't you?

Les

Yes 'M Lesura is my name Miss Vera just sent me to the see how you was.

Alice

Are they at dinner?

Les

Yes 'm Lesura is my name Miss Vera just sent me to see how you was.

Alice

Are they at dinner?

Les

Yes 'm that priest man is an awful nice fellow I spilled some soup on him and he didn't get mad a bit, why don't you go in and eat?

Alice

(after pause) I will (X to arch L 2 E puts hand on upstage curtain to draw it aside)

Ken

(off L) I say, Father Kelly, that's a good story

Father

(off L) Wait till I tell you the ne about the three crows (loud laugh)

Alice

(stops with a gasp and pulls curtains)

Les

What's the matter, Miss Alice?

Alice

Who---who is that man sitting at the further end of the table?

Les

(peeps thru curtains as Alice holds apart) Why, that's Mr. -enward Wright.

Alice  
(starts back from curtain) Kenward Wright, that isn't his name

Les  
Wh, yes, that's what they call him He's a great friend of Miss Veras.

Alice  
My sister's friend

Les  
The cook told me he wanted to marry Miss Vera but Mr Wilton stole her away from him (Alice X to stair L C) I thought you were going into dinner?

Alice  
No I'm going to my room when my sister isn't busy, ask her to come to me.

Les  
Yes'm.

Alice  
And don't say that I looked in there, will you?

Les  
No mom.

Alice  
You see---I'm not going- in because-- I don't want to disturb them Mr. Kenward Wright is a stranger to me remember that. I never saw him before in my life. Never never. (exits to stairway L C)

Les  
She's a funny woman. First she'ds huggery, then she isn't.

Skeet  
(enters R whispers) Listen Amos is coming here tonight.

Les  
Amos who?

Skeet  
(enjoying joke hugely) A mosquito (pause) (stand on tip toe leaning forward expectantly for Les to laugh) A mosquito eh yes yes catch it.

Les  
Mosquitos are here every night.

Skeet  
Ah (staggers back pulling his own coat lapel) This way out, my boy, step lively step lively (exit D L)

Bruce  
(enter) Lesura, take my cigar case to Mr. Wright

Les  
Yes sir (takes case) If you need anything ring the bell. (exit L 2 backing into Ken coming thru curtains)

Ken  
Hello Lesura, in another moment I'd have hugged you

Les  
You would?

Ken  
Yes. What would you have done if I had?

Les  
I'll have to think it over. (gives him cigar case, and exit L 2 E)

Ken  
(laughs) There's a strange girl, takes you literally every time. (takes out cigar and lights it) What's all of your worries Bruce

Bruce  
Well, I wish I was sure of the stock market tomorrow.

Ken  
That's the price you pay for wanting more money

Bruce  
May e

Ken



Ken  
Big deal on, eh?

Bruce  
Every dollar I have is at stake, then you know me pretty well

Ken  
I ought to

Bruce  
Who's this enemy of mine?

Ken  
(who has been playing chords on piano make a discord) What the devil are you talking about?

Bruce  
Fact, Ken, queer things have happened to me lately in the stock market. Three times I've just missed landing a big deal.

Ken  
Well, suppose you have You can't win every time.

Bruce  
No. But it happens when I was sure, when I had told no one of my plans. Then, its as though some one had mental control over me and meant my ruin.

Ken  
How can you talk such nonsense?

Bruce  
I feel it thats all who the devil is it?

Ken  
Don't be a fool, Bruce YYou haven't an enemy in the world.

Bruce  
I have. The feeling has been absent for the past few weeks tonight it has come back (Ken laughs) Don't laugh, I tell you (Vera enter L 2 with Kelly blue print of church between them discussing it)

Vera  
And you see, Father Kelly, the organ there, I can look down on you while I'm playing

Father  
Look down on me, is it? Well, if I can't preach with your eyes on me, then I'd better resign

Vern  
Bruce dear, Katharine is looking over the books in the library, we thought we'd come in here, its cozier.

Bruce  
Yes, of course.

Vera  
Troubled about anything?

Bruce  
Nothing in the world.

Ken (to f  
(to father who has crossed R showing him church plans) A fine church, Father Kelly.

Father  
Ye may well say that, Miss Vera has been telling me of all the decorations and now the pulpit is to be finished in pure gold.

Vera  
(to Bruce very softly) I'm going up to Alice, you haven't told Ken or the others that she is here?

Bruce  
No.

Vera  
Lesura, said Alice wanted to see me (exit L 2)

Skeeter  
(enters)

Father

Well, upon me word if it isn't me old friend Skeeter

Xkddg

How are you father Kelly

Father

Come here to me lad, give me the grip of your hand (does so) Well well and what are you doing here, me boy?

Skeet

I'm Mr. Wilton's vallet de chamber, and then some.

Father

I kdon't know what that is, but it sounds very impor anat.

Skeet

You bet it is, and I am on the level too.

Father- Ken

One wo ld infer from that reamrk that you had at once time---

Skeet

Sure, I was a crook

Father

Now lad, now.

Skeet

I was all right, why say do you know how I first met up with Father Kelly? I broke into his house.

Ken

Youwhat?

Skeet

Broke in wit the jimmy. Wasn't I the tough kid? I was trialed by a fly cop. All at once so eone turned on the lights---it was father Kelly---we heard stpes on the stairs, father Kelly grabbed me, cap off me head pushed me into a chair, in comes the fly cop Father Kelly says he there a burglar in your house, Man Alive s a a Father Kelly theres only me young friend and I a, dn me butler up stairs and he bluffed that cop and he saved me.

Father

The boy romances a little, I' m afraid.

Skeet

That's what you did all right---saved me from going to jail gave me a chance to go straight, and me for you every time Why father Kelly I'd go twell I'd go there for you (Kelly shakes finger Skeet hands over mouth backs up R C pause)

Father

-hank ye, lad but I'd rather see ye travellin in the other direction.

Bruce

Lee suppose you find out if George has the car fixed.

Skeet

Yes sir. (exit R U)

Father

(looks afte Skeet) Well, well what do you think of that?

Ken

Perse ally I think I'd lock up the silver ware.

Fath r

Then you have small confidence in humanity Mr Wright.

Ken

None at all. Have you?

Father

Well, sir I've lived for sixty years on this beautiful earth and I believe theres love in every huma heart.

Ken

But you a priest its your business to believe that.

Father

And you're a man, Mr Wright and it sure be your business to help the

priest no matter what his creed may be, to foster and bring to light even the smallest particle of good in the lowest of god's creatures.

Ken

"Want to make me a missionary eh, no no thanks (exit L 2)

Father

Bruce dear, I'm sorr but I d n't like your friend.

Bruce

Don't like Ken? "hy he's the best fellow in the world.

Father

Maybe so he has a mighty fine way of concealing it.

Bruce

You're angry, father.

Father

I'm not. The cloth I wear forbids me to give way to anger. I am not angry. I t would do me a world of good to take Mr Wrihg by the arm and lead him out on the llawn and quietly beat the head off of him (catches himself) But I'm not angry

Bruce

I see you are not.

Father

But I have a strange feeling about tha man that---

Bruce

Why father Kelly-----

Kathleen

(enter L 2' Uncle Brian shouldn't we be starting for home? (Vera enter)

Father

Soon me colleen

Kath

But sure and its getting late. (start L 2)

Vera

No you and Kathleen are to remain tonight with us.

Father

Won't we be botherin you too much?

Vera

Not at all.

Bruce

Do stay, Father Kelly, we jmust have a talk about the young people in there.

Vera

Besides its going to strom (X R)

Father

I'll accept your hospitatlity most thankfully. (exit with Kathleen L 2)

Bruce

Howedid you find your sister, dear?

Vera

Alice has changed Bruce she's worn and pale and nervous.

Bruce

Won't she comd won?

Vera

She doesn't want to meet any one (Alice walks past window C)

Bruce

(sses her) Why alice.

Vera

Don't call her Bruce she's going out the side door to walk about the-grounds.

Bruce

What ails her , Vera?

Vera

I don't know she seems unhappy dear I'



I'm worried about her.

Bruce

Now now Alice is only tired after her long journey a good nights rest is just what she needs come we'll go in the library with the rest.

Ken

(enters L) Ah, Bruce go another cigar?

Bruce

The box is there, help yourself.

Ken

I thought I had some, but yours is a trifle better than mine Here you know what I like about this cigar, is its peculiar flavor got over that foolish feeling you had about having an enemy?

Bruce

No he's there all right Ken hiding behind his brokers.

Ken

He must be a crafty man

Bruce

He is, but he's a coward, for he doesn't fight in the open

Ken

If you're sure of what you say---

Bruce

Why, Ken

Ken

You ought to be very careful

Bruce

I am. No one knows my plans in Wall street tomorrow no one but Vera-- (exit L 2)

Ken

(looks after him, bites off cigar) No one but Vera (lights match laughs) But some one may find out, no one but Vera (laugh Alice enter R 2 sees Ken X to him slowly Ken turns finds her at his elbow pause)

Alice

(slowly inensely) And you can laugh, you can laugh (laugh outside L)

Ken

(X up pull curtain a cph L 2 burst of laughter off L) (alice sinks in chair) R of table) ) When did you get here?

Alice

This afternoon. I knew you were here. I saw you in there, that's why I did not go in to dinner.

Ken

What did you come for?

Alice

You ask that? When I think of how what a fool I've been--how I've trusted myself my whole life to you--

Ken

There's no good agonizing about it. I mean to be perfectly fair with you, Alice.

Alice

Then why did you give another name out there?

Ken

I was looking up a big railroad deal---Iowa Central didn't want any come back.

Alice

Is that the truth?

Ken

Absolutely.

Alice

Why do you hate, Bruce?

Ken

I don't.

Alice

Yes

Yes you do, I s w it in you face, when I looked thru the curtains (eh starts to speak ) don't deny it, I now it, why do y u hate, Bruce? Why? Why? (Ken picks up phot from piano) Oh its Vera you loved her, and ruce won her, isn't that it? Isn't it Isn't it?

Ken

Yes, he did win her, but--(break quickly) I mean you're quite wrong Alice.

Alice

Won't you forget it all? (sits L of table ) I've come to you now, in all the helplessness of a woman who has given all---everything--- because she loves. I couldn't stay out there in my home. It seemed to me that everyone was looking at me ---that all knew---flesh and blood couldn't stand what I endured another day and so I said "I'll go East I'll find him" # "He will know and pity me help me (rises)

Ken

Hush, yes yes, you mustn't stay here, I'll leave immediately. When the house is quieted down, come down here I'll meet you don't leave any word, just come down here, and we'll go away together.

Alice

And then---and then?

Ken

We'll be married.

Alice

Oh I'll do exactly as you say yes I'll go now tonight you'll come for me yes yes I'll be here, ready (exit L C up stairs)

Ken

Awkward. I wonder how I can get away? I'll---I'll do it )(looks about a moment burst of laughter off L 2 drop into chair back of table telephone) Hello central give me 1770 Murray Hill New York will you I'll wait. Be quick please.

Bruce

(enter L 2) Why don't you come into the library Ken with the rest? Hello, what's up anything broke?

Ken

Don't know New York just called me (in phone) Hello that you Bason? This is Wright---yes Kenward Wriggtt tell them I'll be in tonight about that matter When (covers receiver turns to Bruce) When does the next train leave Bruce?

Bruce

its 11:10. There's a train at 11:55 another at 12:12 and other at 1250

Vera

(enter L 2) Bruce I---

Ken

Yes, I'll be in on the 11:55 from here.

Vera

Why want is it?

Bruce

Ken has to go into the city (presses button)

Vera

Oh, that's too bad (enter Kelly Eatleen Lasura Skeeter)

Ken

Sorry but I simply have to go

Bruce

Mr Wright's at and---(Skeet exits L 3) better take your macintosh Ken.

Ken

Of course. I'll change these in town (referring to evening clothes, Skeet enters L 2 with Ken hat and coat)

Bruce

Bruce

My car is being repaired, worry we'll hitch up a horse for you, -en  
(Vera press button L C)

Ken

No I can make it easy I like the walk Good night father Kelly

Father

Good night, Mr Wright.

Ken

Go d night all I'll be back in a day or two ( a chorus of fare lls  
he exits R 2 thun er in dsitan e lightneing Lesura enter L 2)

Father

I hope therain holds off till her reaches the staion

Vera

Ye so do I -ersoanly I think its ti e to retire. (Skeeter turns out  
lights on table, up R) -esua ra show Miss O'Connor to the blue room

Kath

If you please Mrs Wilton--(puaese undecided)

Vera

Yes, dear what is it?

Father

Well ma' m we have a little custom e in your- our house -athllen  
is use to

Vera

What is it?

Father

When the day is over, and we are going to ur rest, I always call  
the little household together for a good night blessing.

Vera

Won't you do that now, Father Kelly?

Father

If the mastero fo the house doesn't object.

Bruce

Not at all, but I don't believe---

Father

Bruce Lad, don't sayit. Who knows what the night holds for any of us?  
(in prayer) My god's belssing rest on this household and all of  
u tonight forgive if anyone have strayed grant the night may bring new  
strenh to love and serve thee always amen."

Vera

Thank you father Kelly

Bruce

Upon my word, Father Kelly, I wish I did belive---

Vera

Bruce--

Father

Ah, Vera, child, he's made a beginning. The desire must come first.  
The means are in his hands (looks about smiles) And now will anyone  
tell an old man where he is to lay his head?

Vera

Lee will show you, Father Kelly. Good night everyone (she exits  
upstairs)

Kath

Good night Uncle Brian.

Father

Good night, mauvaurneen (Kath exit L 2 with Lesura) Bruce, I'm going  
to browse in your library for an hour.

Bruce

Help yourself (Kelly exit L 2) Lee Lee see that Father Kelly has every  
thing that he requires.



Skeeter

Yes, Mr Wilton.

Bruce

Good night Lee (exit upstairs L C)

Skeet

Good night sir.

Les

(Enter down stairs L C) Good night Mr Martin.

Skeet

Just a moment little one now heres an easy one. Why oh why does a chicken run across the street?

Les

I don't know. Why does a chicken run across the street?

Skeet

Because it can't go around around see?

Les

What was the chicken doing in the street? (Skeet reels back gropes for light switch) I never saw any chickens in the street up in Bellas Falls Vermont, where I came from (Skeet throws switch light s down also out) We don't keep our chickens out in the street.

Skeet

GOOD NIGHT! (EXIT L 3)

Lesura

Mr(follow him to L 3) Mr Martin whose chickens were they Was there a rooster there? (lights up back of scrim Alice seen scrim I down the interior of the library is seen father Kelly seated at table C book in hand lights slowly fade lights go up back of scrim in hall L C Alice seen half down stairway L C X up to window unblot it opens a vivid lightning thunder in distances Ken taps on window R 2 Alice X to window R opens it)

Ken

You made it all right?

Alice

Yes, but Vera's awake. She's worried about me (wind) What was that?

Ken

Only the wind

Alice

(Bruce was talking to Vera, about his business affairs---you are the one who's opposing him---you are his enemy)

Ken

How do you know that?

Alice

I heard Bruce say he was going to sell Iowa Central stocks tomorrow. Sell it till he could buy in the road, and that's the road you---

Ken

Buy---that's the information I wanted Come--

Alice

No no, not until you promise to use that against him Bruce said he would be ruined, if it were known promise not to use it or I'll scream I'll call everyone.

Ken

Be quiet. (draws curtain as he does so the double backs on takes Alice place Alice goes up make change to reappear as Vera) She's fainted Of course I won't use it now, but it would be easy to buy Iowa Central as Bruce all s it he can't deliver it, he hasn't got it and when he has hold demand the stock. It would ruin him. Of course I won't do it. No no no. Come come. You're all right. Are you ready? Well, I'll wait a moment. Pulls yourself together. (lights go up back of scrim room C Vera opens door and looks out starts for door in hall

lights go up in library L then down. Clock strikes twelve  
 Alice in Mens arms at R 2 gives low moan ) Be quiett, are you  
 able to go now? (lights go up in hall wya L C show Vera half down  
 stairs)

Vera

There's some one in this room who is it? Speak (bumps into key board  
 of iano leaning on piano strikes dishord Alice with  
 a cry runs out C window Vera follows her) Alice Alice, she's gone.  
 She wouldn't speak to me.

Father

(enter arch L 2 at dishord on piano) Vera, child, what are ye doing  
 here?

Vera

I can't tell you, Father Kelly

Bruce

(on stairway L C) Vera---

Vera

(to father) There's Bruce and I can't tell him

Bruce

Vera

Vera

Help me Father Kelly help me (Kelly puts Vera behind curtains at window  
 R 2 as Bruce enters L C down stairs)

Bruce

What's that? Who's there. I'll know I (switch on lights) Father Kelly  
 You? Alone?

Father

Yes, Bruce as you see----ALONE!

CURTAIN.

## ACT THREE

(the scene same as Act two only furniture is arranged a little differently chairs R C Arm chair L c settee with broad band of ribbon stretched over it room in disorder storm is not over rain is scheduled-- and wind is still blowing---light through window R 2 is dull)

Skeet

(with carpet sweeper running it over floor)

Father

(enter R two hands clasped behind him in unpleasant train of thought.

Skeet

Good morning father Kelly

Father

(rousing) -h? What's that?

Skeet

I just said good morning that's all

Father

Yes of course good morning me lad, busy with your duties I see.

Skeet

Sure, I'm busy, but it isn't my duty to do this. No its Lesura's the champion all wool warranted not to laugh girl of Bellows Falls Vt. get that father Kelly?

Father

Yes Skeeter yes (looks about sighs drops into chair L of table R C)

Skeet

(X near to him) Listen Father Kelly what's up?

Father

What are you talking about me lad?

Skeet

You and the rest of the house.

Father

Where's Mr Wilton?

Skeet

Gone for a walk, isn't that a hit? Such a day as this? Yes a d and such a face on him no breakfast just a big drink of whiskey and out.

Father

Oh, and Miss Vera?

Skeet

Up in her room crying.

Enter

(rise) Well I---(sits) No I must think this out (breaks off seeing Skeet watching him) Don't stand staring at me like that, but tell me how you know she was crying?

Skeet

Gee, father Kelly what are you jumping hurdles about?

Father

I beg ye pardon lad, I have no right to speak to you like that.--I-thou Forgive me, lad lad and tell me how you know she was crying.

Skeet

I went to knock at her door when she didn't come down I thought maybe she was sick or something I heard her sobbing.

Father

Door girl and Bruce gone out walking.

Skeet

And with an awful face on him he was in the library when I came down stairs with a decanter of brandy

Father

What evil influence is in this house?

Skeet

Is there one?



Father

Yew lad there is 'rise X up C( I felt it last night. I almost had my grip on it, and then it was gone, and Bruce poor boy alone in that room all night with black doubt gnawing at his heart.

Skeet

Everyboyd was happye nough yesterday

Father

I know lad I said to myself last night as I sat here in the library, if there was a household of peace, good will and happiness 'tis here, and then me eyes fell upon this ancient book I held, and I read these words "The evil thoughts of one mind, one human brain, can kill the happiness of an entire household for thoughts are things " (pause)

Skeet

Gee, Father Kelly you make me feel as though here was someone behind me with a rick (Kelly lean on table R C Skeet L C facing him)

Lesura

(enter thru arch L 2) SAY!

Skeet

(violent start) Listne, don't ever do that again to me.

Lesura

Don't do waht Mr Martin?

Skeet

Sneak up behind me and murmer in my ear, gee I thought I was sent for.

Lesura

Do you think Miss Vera knows her sister is gone?

Skeet

Has she? (Lesuar nods yes)

Fa ther

Miss Ver 's asister was she here then?

Lesura

Yes, Mr Reverend.

Father

Where did she go, my girl?

Lesura

I don't know sir.

Father

More mysteries (look at both othey stare at him) For the love of heave don't ye stand there staring can't ye smile, Can't ye laugh?

Skeet

(gloomily at Lesura) She can't.

Lesura

I can, when there is antyhing to laugh at.

Father

Well, Skeeter's the boy hat can meke ye laugh Come no w lad, tell u saajoke that'll put us all in a good humor.

Skeet

I can't.

Father

And why not?

Skeet

Because I've lost a friend.

Fahter

That's sad news, lad.

Skeet

Yes, por Sam poor old Sam , you ere my pal, and now you're canned.

Father

Sam who?

Skeet

Sam--on (Salmon)

Father

Father  
(roars) That's fine Skeeter, sur I brought it on myself. They canned  
my friend Sam Sam who? syas I Sam on says you (drops into chair  
L of table) (roar) Sure, and I thank ye lad there's no medicine like  
a good laugh (Lesura stands L C absolutly blank Skeet turns sees her)

Skeet  
(to Kelly) But theres one patatnt it don't work on.

Father  
What's that? Why don't ye laugh me girl?

Les  
(mournfully) I don't see anything to laugh at I think its sad.

Skeet  
Wouldn't that make a man bite his mother-in-law?

Father  
Yes, but look ye here---

Les  
If my friend Sam was put in a can I couldn't laugh its awful cruel  
to put anyone in a tin can I think its murder (exit L 2)

Father  
Hold on ye don't understand (as she exits turns to Skeet) what on  
eatht is the matter with the girl?

Skeet  
Her face is frozen, and you can't break the ice.

Father  
Never mind lad.

Les  
(enter L 2 holds out cane to Skeet)

Skeet  
What's the idea, of the dressup stick.

Les  
You said I ought to get the hook.

Skeet  
So I did. (looks at stick critically)

Les  
That's the only hook I haven'g got for you (he laughs) "hat are  
you laughing at?

Skeet  
Only only a joke about Sa (Vera enters)

Les  
It isn't funny

Skeet  
Tr it on someone and see

Les  
(look at him turn with absolute sober face) My friend Sam was put in  
a can, (no reply)

Father  
What in the world? (Skeet gestures him to be silent)

Les  
They put Sam in a can.

Vera  
Sam who?

Les  
Codfish.

Skeet  
Oh the hook- (hangs crook cane around her neck and drags her off L 2)

Father  
Well upon me word so thats the hook eh?

Vera  
Good morning, Father Kelly.

Father

Good morning asushla machree

Vera

Doesn't that sound charming? Those old Irish words on your lips father?

Father

I mean them

Vera

After my not coming down until this hour. Leaving you all alone? You are very forgiving, Father Kelly

Father

Don't---don't treat me as one of your society friends.

Vera

What are you talking about, Father Kelly?

Father

This. You'll need a friend before this day is over.

Vera

Please.

Father

No I must speak. I am a guest under your roof --but I am your friend and your husbands (pause) Treat me as such.

Vera

How do you mean?

Father

Tell me about it, about last night---(Vera drops head) tell me all.

Vera

I can't---I can't. (X R)

Father

Can't you see that you must? (pause) Do you love your husband--you home?

Vera

Yes, yes.

Father

Great danger threatens them---threatens you---your very life happiness

Vera

Don't please ~~please~~ don't I've---I've been awake all night---I couldn't sleep something seems to be hanging over me, over Bruce (despairingly) Father Kelly help help me or I shall go mad (X to him)

Father

(takes her hands) Mavourneen I'd lay my life for ye, but ye must tell me all.

Vera

You won't repeat?

Father

Vera child, remember my office. All my life, grief stricken sin laden human beings have been coming to me, for the peace that comes from confession and forgiveness there (points up) Tell me---

Vera

Father Kelly I know more than you do about last night.

Father

(after pause) May I ask you some questions?

Vera

Yes.

Father

Why did you come down to this room after we had said good night?

Vera

I was worried about my sister, Alice.

Father

Was she alone, in this room when you came.

Vera



Vera

I don't know---it was dark---I couldn't see did you see anyone?

Father

Only a dim shadow

Vera

You saw my sister here?

Father

No

Vera

Father Kelly do you believe I came down here to meet someone?

Father

I'm afraid that is what Bruce is thinking, Vera.

Vera

Do you believe---do you? do you? (X to him)

Father

I wish I was as sure of heaven as I am of your truth and purity but don't ye see, I'm not the only one, that has to be convinced? Can ye convince Bruce? That is the question.

Vera

I can't tell him about Alice

Father

Ye must Vera, ye mustn't keep anything back from your husband (Ken enters R 2 & neither Vera nor Kelly perceive him) Where is your sister, Alice

Vera

I don't know.

Father

She went away last night?

Vera

Yes.

Father

Then---(puts hands over eyes Ken disappears R 2)

Vera

Father Kelly---

Father

There it is again

Vera

What?

Father

I don't know Vera a strange sensation of evil it is as though the embodiment of Satan stood behind me tis only my fancy probably. Ye see where we stand? Ye husband tramping the countryside, fighting his jealous doubts of ye, and the only person on earth who can prove ye didn't come down here last night to meet an unknown man is ye sister.

Vera

I know I know (X up C b curtains) Oh Bruce, Bruce our wedding anniversary and how I have planned for this day (turn eagerly) and my gift for him is here behind these curtains.

Father

We must find your sister.

Vera

How how how?

Father

I don't know, but there must be some way.

Vera

But why did she go away like this find the reason.

Father

Find the man (slowly)

Vera

Father Kelly.

Father

This is no time to mince matters.

Vera

Father Kelly can you look into another's mind?

Father

To save you and Bruce, whom I love as though you were my own, I'd ask God to give me that power. Tell me is there any other reason your sisters actions? She left her room came down stairs--- a man was here who was he?

Vera

I don't know.

Father

(take her two hands) Think acushula think it's your life's happiness at stake and Bruce's---think--(telephone rings look at each other rings again) Answer it ----Vera--

Vera

Hello----yes this is Mr Wilton's country place---yes this is Mrs Wilton---what? ---speak louder please---(stagger back with cry)

Father

(quickly to her) Steady---steady get a grip on yourself girl

Vera

Father Kelly

Father

Sure, and I'm here, close beside you feel the grip of my hand? Steady

Vera

It's from Belleville Hospital in New York City Alice was knocked down by an automobile early this morning in the city, and was badly hurt.

Father

You must go to her, I'll take you (in phone) This is Brian Kelly--- Oh you know me, and who are you? --what is that you O'Hara (to Vera) one of my old boys from Five Point Mission go get your things on.

Vera

(desperately from the table to table) There's no train for an hour.

Father

(in phone) Wait a bit, Danny (to Vera) Go make you ready anyhow

(Vera exits) "O then Danny how badly is the lady hurt?--Seriously? That's bad---I'm glad you didn't tell Mrs Wilton listen could she phone Mrs Wilton---I mean could she answer if Mrs Wilton called her? What? You say there's a phone in her room? Is she conscious? Good I'm bringing Mrs Wilton by the first train Oh Danny are you a good boy now Ah stick to it, lad, I never forget you, in my prayers lad. (hang receiver up) That's a good boy (X L C) I must tell Katy I'm going to town.

Bruce

(enter L 2) Good morning father Kelly

Father

Good morning Bruce, you're not going to town?

Bruce

No Mr. Everetts my manager will attend to business for me.

Father

But you told me you had business of importance.

Bruce

Yes, but Everetts will attend to it.

Father

(X to Bruce hand on shoulder) Bruce my lad.

Bruce

(rise hastily desperately trying to cover weakness X L back of table) I hope you'll pardon my dashing off the way I did this morning,

Father Kelly.



But I've a great big deal on and I wanted to think I---

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Father

and this is how ye treat me after all these years.

Bruce

I'm greeting you like a friend

Father

asking your pardon, but ye're not. You come into this room---  
I see ye sunk deep into the depths of black despair, do ye think I don't  
know how ye fell M. Man alive, I've suffered with ye all night.  
But when I come to ye and put my hand out, ye try to throw me off, its  
the coward's way, Bruce and ye are no coward.

Bruce

But there are somethings you don't understand.

Father

No about ye, my lad, and I tell ye now ye must speak out nege r fly  
from trouble---meet it and hand it a crack in its ugly face---

Bruce

You are making me remember what I've swiked miles to forget (sit L)

Father

And ye didn't succeed---ye brought it back with ye---riding on ye  
shoulders and sinking its spurs deep into ye.

Bruce

Don't don't father Kelly---you're torturing me (cup L C)

Father

The surgeon tortures ye, but he cures ye.

Bruce

But you can't cure me.

Father

Good- God can

Bruce

No no he can't. Because I'm an unbleiver, an atheist (Father hands  
over eyes lips moving) I know I'm hurting you, Father Kelly, but if  
you want me to talk you must stand what I say (break abruptly) What  
are you doing, father?

Father

Praying for ye lad, praying to the power that rules the universe  
All thats in it---praying for your soul---evil shan't have ye lad,  
it may draw ye close to the muth of the pit, but old father Kelly  
will never let ye go. He'll follow ye, and bring ye back to Love and  
God.

Bruce

(X table R C O) You say that after last night?

Father

and-w-y-not? I'll say it with me last breath

Bruce

And why not? You're a priest shut in f om the worl d you don't know  
what it is to-love with all your heart, and soul and then--then--

(drop in chair L of table head in hands)

Father

(table R) Ye think I don't know, Bruce, it hasn't been forty years  
since a boy and girl stood by the side of a rippling stream in the old  
country. She the fairest of God's creatures, gentleness and purity shone  
from her eyes--and the lad, a mere stripling stood looking at her, and  
said "Mavourneen I love ye, but there's something within me that calls  
me to work for mankind---to give life to our church--and I must do  
it. There they clasped hands and parted, never to meet again, until  
the sea shall give its dead, and parting shall be no more. The  
boy Bruce was myself---the girl was your mother. That's why I love  
ye lad, for the sake of your mother who is praying for her boy now to the  
God that ye deny.



Bruce

My mother! How dimly I remember her, a kind gentle sweet faced woman with a beauty almost ethereal. My father a stern faced man how he used to take me to the room where my mother lies he would lift me up and place me in her arm, and how tight she would hold me. Then one day there was a hush, in that great house, folks walked on tip toes, and spoke in low tones up in the nursery I could hear sweet music, gentle voices singing I can even remember the refrain "Lead Kindly Light" out our earthly path ways. Then, I would drop my marvelous train of cars, cling to my nurse, and beg to be taken to my mother. She would always hush me, with a low sweet voice, and tell me my mother had gone on a long long journey and if I was a good---very good boy I would see her again. There were always tears in her eyes, when she would tell me this. Andn<sup>t</sup> would try and comfort her. Then, came the long years of my youth, to manhood and the understanding of my great loss. Now, Father Kelly I know why the priest worked so hard with me.

Father

Brace up my boy and we will fight it out together.

Bruce

(offer hand) Father Kelly---when I think of last night, I'm in hell

Father

Many a man has been there, and came out safe.

Bruce

I can't think---I can't reason it out I--(X to C to spirit cabinet)

Father

What are ye going to do?

Bruce

I want a drink.

Father

Ye can't have it-- a drink is it? "With ye two hands trembling---and yer eggs blazing? Not one drop."

Bruce

In GOD'S NAME.

FATHER

In HIS name not one drop

Bruce

All right, father Kelly---I'll do as you say.

Vera

(enter L C ) I'm ready, Father Kelly (sees Bruce at door C) Bruce!  
(Bruce does not turn or notice she turns to father)

Father

Spoke to him your sister is conscious may e ye can talk to her over the phone. (exit L 3)

Vera

(X to Bruce) Bruce! Bruce! (hand on his arm)

Bruce

Don't touch me.

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

Is that all you have to say to me?

Vera

What do you want me to say?

Bruce

You might explain.

Vera

Explain!

Bruce

Explain why you left your bed last night--why you came down to this room.

Vera

Vera  
I was worried, I couldn't sleep.

Bruce  
Who was the man you met here?

Vera  
I met no one.

Bruce  
There was a man here in this room Who was he?

Vera  
I don't know.

Bruce  
You don't know? He waited out there under the shrubbery---smoked a cigar, while he waited then he came into this room and met you

Vera  
No, no Bruce.

Bruce  
Then why did he come? He wasn't a thief---there's nothing missing--- you came hereO--

Vera  
Did you see me?

Bruce  
No, father Kelly shielded you, but why did you come? Tell me WHY?

Vera  
I will tell you (X L) it was Alice she came here to meet that man.

Bruce  
What man?

Vera  
I don't know.

Bruce  
Call your sister (X L C)

Vera  
Alice isn't hereM

Bruce  
Gone? When?

Vera  
Last night after she saw that man

Bruce  
Have you heard from her?

Vera  
Yes, she was knocked down senseless by an automobile in the city and taken to the Belleville hospital

Bruce  
When did you know this?

Vera  
A few minutes ago I was going to the city to see her, with father Kelly Bruce take me in your arms.

Bruce  
I can't I can't I can't.

Vera  
You doubt me? mYou do? You do? LoudO?

Bruce  
How can any man help it? I awaken in the night-- and find you gone, I go to your sister's room it is empty and in disorder---, I came down here and see a man leave this room (pause then burst) WHO WAS HE.

Vera  
I can't know---I don't know GOD I don't know.

Bruce  
You must, you must know.

Vera  
But I don't. (he turns and she clutches arms about his neck)

Bruce, please please listen to me---I love you there never has anyone else in my life there never will be and I am suffering because it kills me to see you suffer (he wrestles from her) Bruce! Bruce! (sinks in chair loof table)

Bruce

You love me, but you don't speak you love me and you won't explain?

Vera

I can't. I don't know. Wait---wait Alice does (snatch phone) Give me Bellville Hospital---Mr O'Hara? you know the number, thank you---hurry please (to Bruce) I'll prove it to you, dear Alice will tell you only be patient wait.

Bruce

Why should a man come here unless to see you, Alice is a stranger.

Vera

Wait please (phone rings) Is that you, Mr O'Hara? This is Mrs Wilton---may I speak to my sister Alice? Miss Marsh? I can please please be quick (to Bruce) Bruce, Alice will tell you she's very weak but only a few words will do it, (phone) Alice dear, is this you? I'm so sorry darling yes it is Vera I'm going to you, dear. But Alice won't you speak the truth to Bruce. Just one word Alice, for God's sake tell him that that man came here last night to see you. He's right here Bruce---Bruce---Bruce be quick. (hands receiver) Alice will speak to you, she'll tell you

Bruce

(phone) This is Bruce Alice so sorry you're hurt. Will you tell me about last night? I mean before you left here. Yes yes, I know---you came down stairs---who was the man in this room? Was it you who came to meet? Well I'm waiting. (pause)

Vera

Doesn't she answer?

Bruce

No, there's a confused murmur of voices at the other end of the wire.

Vera

(phone) Please let me---Central won't you ring Belleville Hospital again? Wait? (pause) (Vera's expression changes eyes dilate hands receiver---lean on table R hand L hand clutched at breast)

Bruce

Well, well why didn't she speak to me?

Vera

(softly) Alice---is dead---my sister---my own sister---dead there among strangers.

Bruce

(pitifully) Vera!

Vera

Oh, Bruce, don't doubt me now dear, let me cry my anguish out in your arms. I want my husband's love.

Bruce

Vera (phone rings) Wait dear (bus) Yes it's Wilton---is that you Everetts Well keep your never-old man I can't understand you. What? You sold Iowa Central in 20,000 lots? (pause) Wait (to Vera)

Vera

What is it Bruce, tell me tell me---

Bruce

You won't tell me why you came down here last night to meet that unknown man. I'll tell you why The man is my secret enemy who has been fighting me in Wall Street for months past.

Vera

No no no!

Bruce

You were the only one who knew I mean to own the Iowa Central Railroad



by selling its stock---then buying it in

Vera

Yes you told me so last night

Bruce

You were the only one who knew well you came down here last night to meet an enemy and tell him

Vera

No no upon my soul Bruce as I hope for mercy.

Bruce

My enemy has bought the stock I sold---thousands of shares and I have none to deliver.

Vera

Bruce Bruce

Bruce

You've ruined me.

Vera

Don't say it.

Bruce

Its true.

Vera

Its a lie----Thy God do something do something.

Bruce

Theres no help---I'm smashed YOU PLANNED IT.

Vera

How dare you!

Bruce

Because I know now that all your words of love---all your carresses are his. Another man owns you go to him---but my God not with that rosary about your neck, it is the symbol of Purity give it to me Give it to me (seizes rosary from neck) Ruin has come---I'll end it all. Your God has deserted me. (revolver from pocket)

Vera

No no not that. Help! father Kelly (tear curtains from C showing life size picture of Christ illuminated from behind father enters L 2)

Father

No, God speaks to you now through his ONLY SON and the cross upon the rosary.

Bruce

(drop revolver clutch table L C)

Vera

(falls on knees holding father Kellys left hand)

Father

(bending over her (Music "The Rosary" swells to FF)

CURTAIN

SCENE\* EXTERIOR OF THE NEW CHURCH A handsome building of marble built on a hill sacristy L 3 at rise all lights out in house gradually the moon steals upon the stage and lights the outside of church)

Vera

(after pause) (enter R 2 shabbily dressed see chapel up C X to it)  
(with hands outstretched falls on knees before door & prays silent)

Skeet

(enter L 3 Vera quickly draw veil Skeet sees her) I beg your pardon ma'am (starts X R discover Vera looks over shoulder, shakes head) Vera rises backs away L 2) Were you trying to doge me Mrs Wilton?

Vera

You are mistaken.

Skeet

"O I'm not---I may be thick about some things, but no one as good to me as you were can fool me (step toward her) Please Miss Vera won't you say hello Lee?"

Vera

(offers hand) Lee.

Skeet

Gee, but that's good and to see you again won't you lift your veil just a moment please.

Vera

(does so) You find me changed don't you Lee?

Skeet

It's the kindest, sweetest face on earth to me, just to have you here talking to me why didn't you send for me do you think wouldn't have come? I would if there had been a regiment of policeman with clubs and revolvers standing between I'd have come and gone the limit for you.

Vera

I couldn't send for you Lee, or anyone I felt I was an outcast I was accused.

Skeet

Don't say it, I won't let even you say one word against yourself.

Vera

Thank you Lee and so the chapel of the rosary was finished for dear Father Kelly just as Bruce and I planned. Isn't it strange that I should stand here today poor shabby without a home at the door of this sacred place?

Skeet

Ye won't stand here long (starts R)

Vera

(stop him) Wait Lee where are you going?

Skeet

To Father Kelly---do you think he won't be glad. Well, watch him when he sees you

Vera

No Lee, no do you think I could bear it? Why look at me no let me find some quiet corner, where I can listen to the mass when mass is read-where I can hear dear old father Kelly's voice. Then I'll steal away as I came unnoticed unknown.

Skeet

I suppose I must do it if you say so I always minded what you said.

Vera

You were a dear faithful friend always (takes his hand) I'll go there---to the little gallery up there (X L 2) And when the bells

ring out their message of peace and the velings fall---^ shal hear and see everything (exit C ) (Skeet look afte her Lesura enters R 2 dressed very fashi nable afternoos gown large picture hat long handle parasol st op right center with lorgnette turn slowly surveying church Skeet X R stop as he sees Lesura does not recognize )

Skeet

So here comes the whole fifth avenue (Lesura moves up C as he starts R 2)

Lesura

My good little man--

Sket

Say that sounds familiar (turns ) Yes mam'am.

Lesura

Would you be good enough to show me over this edifice?

Skeet

Bellas Falls Bt and she's got 'm all on

Les

Is that you, Mr Martin?

Skeet

It is Say ther aint any clothes left in bellows falls, are they?

Les

You observe a change in me

Skeet

Change? Say ogau re the fourth of July parade---a presidential torch light prosession (she approaches very society way)

Les

Well, Father---

Skeet

Oh yes father, not paw, but father.

Les

Made a lot of money

Skeet

Did any one see him making it?

Les

Why no

Skeet

That was lucky for father.

Les

Why lucky?

Skeet

I had a friend who made a lot of money pps stak s -- bales of it-- he workd hard---sat up nights making his money---but theysaw him (Les does not smile Skeet turns to imaginary dog) Lie still Rover-- lie still nothing doing.

Les

So father sent me to school and I'm finished.

Skeet

You look it but have you changed? Are you still there with that joke deying stuff that sheet iron map warranted not to c ack if yo hit i with a hammer. Are you Greenland's icy mountains are you---

Les

You seem to donverse in hyperpoles.

Skeet

Help! Stop Rover---you must 't bi e the lady even if she does call you names.

Les

And you still have your dog I see

Skeet

You see? Then if you're sure you see a dog there, the next thing you want to see is a doctor.



Les  
Now don't be naught---

Skeet  
Nwer why paw says---

Les  
Paw who?

Skeet  
Parsnipe (pause sober look from Les) Say you may be finished but you have not changed a bit.

Les  
(half to self) Parsnips parsnip

Skeet  
Be patient lady---it won't pain you I'll give you gas for the next one. You see (pause she smiles) hey're off bellows falls in the lead.

Les  
Why---why--

Skeet  
At the half---Bellows Falls first (she laughs) Bellows falls wins hurrah thats right laugh laugh go on laugh laugh you Egyptian mummy laugh on (poses and leans on umbrella) Am I a mope- joke?

Les  
Lee, thats very very funny

Skeet  
They taught you to laugh when they finished you resusa I was going to you and say how strang am I with youll can you give me your mitt and say take the stuff and meanit? Could you? Oh could you Hold yourbreath, Rover hold your breath

Les  
Am I to infer that you are rproposing marriage to me?

Skeet  
Red hot zizzling right off the bat.

Les  
Lee, I cold never marry a man who dressed like that never--you lack finish.

Skeet  
That's easy. You haven't seen my finish (removed vovering from hat pulls down coat tail discrad tie remove fals cov er on vest also ragged umbrella case and now stand s before Les clothed in fine Prince Alber---facny vest high hat slim umbrella etc) Always there with that quick stuff me I am going---going, any more bids? Anybody want me? Going---going---

Les  
I want you--(akes his arm)

Skeet  
Gone I've won her at last, come on Rover (they exit R 2)

Bruce  
(enter R 2 rgg ed face pale and drawn suffering from his first thrown of delierium trmeorers) they ca 't find me here, I've dogged them all the awful shapes thathave tried to seize me. You can't come here t is is the bhurch and I'msafe yes yes safe (sink on bench R C)

Father  
(enter stops shivers lays hands over eyes X slowly to Bruce) Bruce me dear boy! Bruce! Father I thank thee thous hast brought him back sin sick and weary broken and tron though the very glames of the pit her at the foot of thy Holy alter (pause) Bruce! (Bruce rises and staggers away) Bruce dear---(Pause rise and speak sharply) Bruce Wilton.

Bruce  
Yes.

Father

Rouse yerself speak to me how came ye her ?

Bruce

I don't know they're after me

Father

They who ? -

Bruce

Shapes of poisonhouse things ghta tried to sieze me they laughed and mocked me you won't let them to ch me you won't you won't (kneeling clinching fathers hand)

Father

Listn to me lad no harm shall come to you ye know me ye know father Kelly don't ye?

Bruce

Yes, you came to my house that night you asked a blessing on it.

Father

I did.

Bruce

And this is the answer to you praryer isn't it stranger father that I am in rags and tatters a bleeding broken par dy of a man should come her today why why (X L C)

Father

Yes, tha is the chapel of the rosary that ye built fer me Bruce and tod y it will be opened at high mass.

Bruce

We didn't thikkthat night that it would end like this.

Father

This is ot the end lad, tis only th beginning of the lesson you must learn there is one who rules us all (pause) Where is Vera?

Bruce

don't--don't speak her name she brought me all this.

Father

Stop! Not one word aganst her, theres no voice in all the world good enough to speak her name. I believe in her as I believe in my religion---as I hope for hereafter---where pian and suffering shall be no more

Bruce

If I could only believe--- (sinks bench R)

Father

Ye shall, the black cloud thats over ye shall pass. And thee sunshine in belief of Gods love shall yet flood your soul Bruce Lad waht evil ghing came over ye, that day?

Bruce

I don't know

Father

And yet it was there --I sensed it in the garden before we went in to dine. I felt it nex t day---I feel it-- (Ken enters L 2)

Ken

Good day, Father Kelly

Father

Now good day to you Mr Kenward Wright.

Ken

I've come for you, Bruce.

Father

Wait! You've come for my dear boy Bruce Mr Wright?

Ken

Yes, we ' ve had him in the sanitarium near here for mnths (low tone to Father) Bruce isn't quite right you understand.

Father

No, but I'm trying to fathom it, you'll stay to service lad (



Ken

I would by all means you are dressed for it, aren't you?

Father

In the house of God Mr Wright its not what ye wear upon ye back but what ye naked soul is in His sight, that counts (pause) Stay-Bruce

Bruce

no no I've tried to believe all my life I've tried and your God answers me by bring me down to this to the humiliation of poverty and rags.

Father

Maybe tis time that ye rise a new and better man pray with me lad now before ye yonder alter.

Bruce

No these are oaths in my heart---blasphemy on my lips.

Father

Don't lad don't -

Bruce

I gave a rosary to the woman I loved a rosary of pearls each pearl a prayer a prayer from my soul that some power would change my heart, and bring me to the faith believe- belief.

Father

And that prayer will be answered.

Bruce

When? When? Must I sink lower sound the depths of more misery and despair?

Father

The time may come now kneel kneel (Bruce dazed by Kelly answer--- drops on knees)

Ken

Better let me take him away

Father

Why are you so anxious to do that, Mr Wright.

Ken

I don't want him to disturb you

Father

Disturb is it? My poor lad Bruce once so full of life and gaiety now fallen to this, is as though some evil power held him--- a cruel human power and I know it is. Since the day man first thought of evil, it has had its power, and evil thought holds my poor boy now but God in his mercy can change that.

Ken

You believe in miracles then?

Father

Who doubts them? Don't they happen about us every day? Ask the young mother whose soul goes down to the very gates of death that her smiling babe may lie within her arms. Isn't that a miracle? God working through nature for all mankind.

Ken

Then work a miracle now, for him Prove to him that his wife is true prove that she came down from her room that night not to meet a man but to meet her sister or for her sister.

Father

That's what I'm praying for now.

Ken

Prove to him that the rosary he gave to Vera is stainless speak the name of the man who came to the house that night. (chapel bell sounds)

Bruce

(stagger to feet) Good bye Father Kelly its the end of all to me.



Father

Wait father above---look down from above your promise ask and ye shall recieve (chapel bell str kes another deep tone ) Vera withing begins to play and sing the Rosary)

Bruce

The Rosary.

Ken

Come Bruce come

Father

No! Stay where ye are. The man who came to your house that night--- the man who has brought all this misery and ru n upon ye, is YOU Kenwardwright.

Ken

How d you know that?

Father

It comes from above.

Ken

(with cry, fall upon face & fathers feet) (Vera appears door C)

Father

Speak! I command ye---speak

Ken

It is true.

Father

Speak! His eyes are upon ye.

Ken

Alice came to meet me that night, I was your enemy, Bruce--

Vera

Father. (Omnes)

Bruce

Kenward (omnes)

Father

Speak! (omnes)

Ken

I hated you because Vera loved you I mean to take all from you, bring you to dust seer your soul with the flames of jealousy. I did it did it I---I---(breaks down sobbing)

Vera

Bruce!

Bruce

My wife forgive me

Vera

I love you dear.

Father

The sacred doors of his house are open .

Bruce

I believe. Help thou, my unbelief.

Ken

Father, don't leave me, I'm suffering. Evil has me I'm on fire, pity me, pity me.

Father

I do pity you, my son. The church seeks justice not revenge. At sunrise every soul is vorn again, and so I say to you, as my master said of old "GO AND SIN NO MORE."

DURRAIN

END OF PLAY